



Whitby Urban District



REPORT



for the

Year 1962

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

B. SCHROEDER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

H. EATOUGH, M.A.P.H.I.

M.O.H. Whitby U.D.C. 1962.

Dr. D. Thomson B. 1312 23 JAN 1964
27 JAN 1964

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the
WHITBY URBAN DISTRICT
for the Year 1962.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

In the country as a whole this year will be remembered for the severity of the weather in the early months of the year, and the alarm caused by the importation of smallpox. This district experienced the severe weather, and many more people than usual were re-vaccinated or vaccinated.

In July a fine new cattle slaughterhouse was opened. Although this building is seen by few people, it is one of which the town can be proud, both of the building and the way in which the business of it is carried out.

Mr. Eatough once again draws the Councillors' attention to the disappointing housing progress. If only those Councillors, whose description of dwellings they have personally visited as appalling places for anyone to live in, could realise that they appear to the Public Health Inspectors and me in no way exceptional but are typical of the sad state of affairs for many, they would be bound to press constantly for the rapid erection of Council houses, this being the only practicable way of dealing with such cases.

A disconcerting discovery made as a result of noticing a series of low haemoglobin readings in the spring of 1963 was that the average value of the haemoglobin in one group of presumably healthy women was 89 per cent. of normal in 1956 and had declined to 78 per cent. in similar groups in 1959, remaining low thereafter.

I am,

Yours obediently,

B. SCHROEDER,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY, 1962.

Name.	Qualifications	Office held.	Whole or part time.	Other Public Offices held.
B. SCHROEDER	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health.	Whole	Medical Officer of Health, Whitby R.D.C. Assistant County Medical Officer, N.R.C.C.
H. EATOUGH	M.A.P.H.I.	Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.	Whole	
W. HUNTER	Cert. S.I.B.	Public Health Inspector.	Whole	

STATISTICS AND LOCAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Population—

Registrar-General's Estimate, mid-1962	11,720
Rateable Value at 31st March, 1963	£158,705
Sum represented by a Penny Rate—£639.	

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate	119	114	233
Illegitimate	5	1	6
	—	—	—
Totals	124	115	239
	—	—	—

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	20.4
Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	21.6
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population, England and Wales	18.0

	Male	Female	Total
Still Births—Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	—	—	—
Totals	2	2	4
	—	—	—

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	16.5
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births, England and Wales	18.1

Deaths of Infants under one year—

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	—	—	—
Totals	4	3	7
	—	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births ...	29.3
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births, England and Wales	20.7

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks old—

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	—	—	—
Totals	2	3	5
	—	—	—

Deaths of Infants under 1 week old—

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	—	—	—
Totals	2	3	5
	—	—	—
	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	95	110	205
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			17.5
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			12.6
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population, England and Wales			11.9

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1962.

According to the Registrar-General's Classification :—

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	2	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	4	1	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	5	16
Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	33	46
Coronary disease, angina	21	19	40
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
Other heart disease	20	27	47
Other circulatory disease	2	0	2
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	3	3	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	0	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0	1
Congenital malformations	1	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	7	13
Motor vehicle accidents	0	0	0
All other accidents	4	4	8
Suicide	0	1	1
	—	—	—
Totals	95	110	205
	—	—	—

TABLE OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS—MALES.

Cause of Death.	Under 4 wks.-									
	4 wks.	1 yr.	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74 75+
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	6
Coronary disease, angina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	6
Hypertension with heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	12
Other circulatory disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 6
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital malformations	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other accidents	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	2	2	—	—	—	—	1	8	16	28 38

TABLE OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS—FEMALES.

Cause of Death.	Under 4 wks.-									
	4 wks.	1 yr.	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74 75+
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	22
Coronary disease, angina	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	3	11
Hypertension with heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Other heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
All other accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	3	—	—	—	—	—	5	7	21	73

The above figures, compiled from local records, show one death less than the Registrar-General's figures.

COMMENT ON VITAL STATISTICS.

It is pleasing to observe that this year the birth rate is, for the sixth year in succession, better than the national average.

One effect, on the health of people living adjacent to the railway, of reduction in the emission of smoke, because of the change from steam to diesel engines, may be shown in the figures for lung cancer. During the years 1956-61, 32 people died from this cause in the town of Whitby, 13 of them in the Fishburn Park Ward—nobody died of lung cancer in this ward in 1962.

WATER SUPPLIES.

In addition to frequent tests for free chlorine, during the year, 77 water samples were taken for bacteriological examination, 67 were satisfactory and 10 were unsatisfactory.

REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER.

The Harbour Master has kindly given the following particulars :—

VESSELS USING THE PORT DURING 1962.

Yachts and Private Craft	183
Dutch Fishing Vessels	32
German Fishing Vessels	7
Norwegian Fishing Vessels	4
Polish Fishing Vessels	1

Local Fishing Fleet :

Landings for the year were :—

Lobsters, 928 cwts.	£30,644
Crabs, 6,538 cwts.	£23,852
White Fish, 16,449 cwts	£67,951
Total	£122,447

Scottish Herring Fleet :

Forty-seven vessels used the port during 1962, 20 of which were based on port, with the other 27 working between ports :

Landings	559
Crans	3,931
Value	£30,757

Commercial Trade :

Limestone to Scotland—61 ships, totalling ... 26,730 tons
 Timber from Baltic—3 ships, totalling 460 standards

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

(Other than Tuberculosis).

Infectious diseases were notified as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	18
Measles	50
Pneumonia	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1
Malaria (contracted abroad)	1

TUBERCULOSIS, 1962.

During the year 8 cases (7 male, 1 female) of respiratory tuberculosis were notified. One death (a male) from this cause was recorded.

SUMMARY OF MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEYS IN THE WHITBY AREA, 1962.

Attendances.		Referred to the Chest Clinic.											
		Active P.P.P.T.		Inactive P.P.P.T.		Fibrosis		Bronchial Carcinoma		Other Abnormalities		Cystic Changes	
MALE	FEMALE	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
WHITBY :													
Hospital Management Committee—													
0	23	0	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
3	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
37	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Corporation Employees													
Persons concerned in Food and													
Drink Trades													
8	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civil Servants and Nationalised													
32	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	94	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sundry Firms													
178	249	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUBLIC SESSION													
275	434	0	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
WHITBY TOTAL													
GOATHLAND :													
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teachers													
Person concerned in Food and													
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drink Trades													
Civil Servants and Nationalised													
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industries													
PUBLIC SESSION													
34	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GOATHLAND'S TOTAL ...													
ROBIN HOOD'S BAY :													
2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teachers													
Persons concerned in Food and													
2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drink Trades													
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Students													
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
District Nurse													
Quarrymen and Foundry Workers													
49	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUBLIC SESSION													
88	104	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROBIN HOOD'S BAY TOTAL ...													

HOSPITALS.

The Hospitals in Whitby are administered by the Scarborough, Bridlington, Malton and Whitby Group Hospital Management Committee :—

(1) **WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.**

A General Hospital with an Out-Patient Department.

(2) **ST. HILDA'S HOSPITAL.**

Specially equipped for the care of the aged sick.

(3) **ESKDALE HOSPITAL.**

A General Hospital with a Maternity Ward.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarborough and Middlesbrough Infectious Diseases Hospitals are available for the admission of cases requiring isolation.

Special arrangements are made for cases of Poliomyelitis.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE AREA BY THE NORTH RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL.

Care of Mothers and Young Children.

The Child Welfare Centre and the Ante-Natal Clinic are held at Grape Lane, Whitby, each week, on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, respectively.

The Mount I.W.C. at Helredale is open on alternate Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m.

Sleights I.W.C. at Sleights Institute, is held on the third Monday of each month. Though situated in the Rural District area, mothers from the Briggswath area find it a convenient centre to attend.

When required, patients attending these Clinics may be referred to the following special clinics, also held at Grape Lane, Whitby :—

Orthopaedic Clinic.

Artificial Sunlight Clinic.

Eye Clinic.

Dental Clinic.

Child Guidance Clinic.

Midwifery.

The Whitby Urban District is served by one domiciliary midwife :—

Nurse W. Bretherick, 10b, Well Close Square (Tel. No. Whitby 963).

Gas and Air Analgesia is available to any patient who desires it.

Health Visiting.

There are two Health Visitors for this district, and their first duty is the visiting of homes for the purpose of giving advice

as to the care of young children. It is their duty to visit every home where there is a child below school age, so that the mother may be encouraged to discuss even the most trivial worry with the Health Visitor, who may then re-assure her or get her to seek expert advice.

In addition, they visit and advise expectant or nursing mothers, persons suffering from illness, including tuberculosis, and aged persons.

Home Nursing.

When called for by the family doctor, the District Nurse will attend persons who require nursing in their own homes. In case of difficulty messages for district nurses can be left at the District Health Office, Grape Lane, Whitby. (Tel. No. Whitby 520).

Vaccination and Immunisation.

During the year under review the numbers dealt with in the combined area, Whitby Urban and Rural districts, were as follows :—

	Immunisations.		Smallpox Vaccinations.		Whooping Cough Immunisations.
	Primary.	Refresher.	Primary.	Re-Vaccs.	Primary.
Under 5 years ...	179	3	323	10	173
5—14 years	30	21	216	505	10
Over 15 years ...	0	0	328	596	0

The total numbers of children immunised at any time up to 31st December, 1962, were as follows :—

Under 5 years	1,116
5—14 years	2,455

At 31st December, 1962, 6,126 persons had received protection against poliomyelitis by vaccine since the inception of the scheme.

The introduction of oral poliomyelitis vaccine has greatly increased the popularity of this protective procedure.

Because of the outbreaks of smallpox in other parts of the country there was a greatly increased demand for vaccination against smallpox in the early months of 1962.

Ambulance Service.

Two large ambulances and one light ambulance (utilicon) are now housed in a garage off Stakesby Road, Whitby.

Occasionally W.V.S. helpers in the Hospital Car Service have helped the ambulance service, and assistance has also been given by members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Domestic Help Service.

Helps are provided when necessary, and 61 cases in the Urban District received assistance during 1962.

Payment for the service of a domestic help depends on income and necessary expenses, and varies from a possible full rate of 4s. 0d. an hour to a free service.

Mental Health Services.

The Mental Health Services are administered direct by the County Council. The Duly Authorised Officers for the area operate from :—

16, Dean Road, Scarborough. Tel. No. Scarborough 309.

Welfare Services.

The office of the District Welfare Officer, who sees to the welfare of old people, is at Grape Lane, Whitby. Tel. No. Whitby 235.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

An active Voluntary Care Committee serves the needs of the area, its chief functions being to provide extra nourishment, clothing, bedding, medical comforts, nursing equipment, etc., and to do everything possible for the welfare of sick persons.

The Secretary of the Care Committee, Mr. K. Birdsall, has kindly prepared the following extract from his Annual Report :—

During the year ended 31st March, 1963, the following items of assistance have been given :—

Tuberculosis.

One patient received extra nourishment, consisting of 5 tins Horlicks and 2 jars Bovril.

One patient was provided with clothing and footwear. (Additional clothing was provided by arrangement with W.V.S.).

Travelling expenses paid to close relatives of three patients in sanatoria : aggregate 11 occasions.

Other Illnesses.

One patient received extra nourishment, consisting of 9 tins Horlicks, 8 jars Bovril and 1 tin Marmite.

Travelling expenses paid to wives of two men in hospital (Cottingham and Leeds) on one occasion each.

Shoes provided for child suffering from after-effects of poliomyelitis—five pairs, odd sizes.

Dentures provided for patient on recommendation of family doctor.

Harvest Festival Produce.

Harvest festival produce kindly donated by Goathland Church was distributed amongst sick persons.

Equipment Loaned Out.

Wheelchairs	8
Bed Rests	13
Bed Cradles	6
Rubber Sheets	41

Air Rings	13
Feeding Cups	5
Crutches	4
Commodes	3
Nursing Hoists	3
Walking Tripod	1
Sputum Mug	1
Bed Blocks	6
Douche Cans	1
Bedpans and Urinals	49

Meals Service.

The W.V.S. "Meals-on-Wheels" service distributed 2,752 meals during the year. This service, financed mainly by the Care Committee, is much appreciated, and in association with such services as home nursing and home helps enables many elderly people to remain at home when otherwise they would require hospital beds.

Laundry Service.

The Hospital Laundry Service dealt with 273 items of laundry from domiciliary patients during the year. This is a most helpful service, particularly when, because of incontinence, quick changes of bedding are required.

Incontinent Pads.

These pads have proved most useful to the District Nurses in nursing incontinent patients. During the year the N.R.C.C. made these a direct provision through the Area Health Office, and the Care Committee will no longer be required to provide them.

Chiropody Service.

During the year four chiropodists were engaged in our Chiropody Service, which provides treatment for the following:—

- Persons aged 65 years and over.
- Physically handicapped persons.
- Persons with mental illness.
- Expectant mothers.

362 patients received treatment, compared with 290 in the previous year. A total of 2,229 treatments were given, compared with 1,663 in the previous year. The treatments were arranged as follows:—

At Chiropodists' surgeries	1,782
At Clinic Sessions	387
At Patients' Homes	60

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

1962

The Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
St. Hilda's Terrace,
Whitby.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WHITBY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I bed to submit for your consideration an Annual Report concerning the work in my Department during 1962.

The hope that full compliance with Slaughterhouse Regulations during 1962 has not matured, only half the work being completed.

Again I must express disappointment at the progress in Housing. The fact that not one House was completed by the Council in a year reflects very badly on the Slum Clearance Programme. There are indeed many people in the Town whose housing conditions cannot be improved for a long time and it is a most difficult task to give an adequate reason for this state of affairs.

The fact that at least one sewer scheme has been commenced on paper is a step in the right direction on a long road.

To look back over a year's work with the many difficulties and problems which arise enables one to appreciate the help and assistance which is afforded by fellow Officers and Councillors and indeed the general public, to all these I tender my thanks.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant,

H. EATOUGH.

Pubic Health Inspector.

VISIT AND INSPECTIONS.

Food :

Meat Inspection	727
Fish Market	76
Open Market	16
Unsound	59
Premises	290
Vending Machines	20
Ice Cream Samples	52

Housing :

Slum Clearance	26
Improvement Grants	58
Application Assessment	11
Rent Act	3
Miscellaneous	166

Nuisances	90
Drains and Sewers	271
Refuse Collection and Disposal	218
Public Conveniences	99
Caravan Sites	15
Bathing Pool	8
Rodent Control	119
River Pollution	1
Factories	5
Fumigation	6
Infectious Diseases	11
Petroleum Regulations	25
Smoke Control	19
Miscellaneous	344

WATER SUPPLY.

The public water supply to the town has been adequate both in quantity and quality throughout the year. Regular sampling takes place and on no occasion has the result of samples given cause for action.

Scarborough Corporation, who took over the supply and distribution of water in 1961, seem now to have got into full stride and no difficulties are being encountered by consumers.

It is understood that considerable improvement works are to be undertaken in the near future, but mainly they are in the adjoining Rural District, though benefit will be felt in the Urban District.

SEWERS AND DRAINS.

Approval to the first section of the sewer scheme for the district has been received and tenders are being sought, work should commence during 1963 and finish early 1964, Preparatory work commenced on this section late 1961, therefore it would seem that at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ years is required before completion.

As there are two or possibly three more sections to the whole scheme, each of about equal size, a considerable time must elapse before it can be said that the town is adequately sewered.

As a Public Health Officer this seems very slow progress for such an important and urgent work.

RIVERS AND STREAM.

Pollution in non-tidal waters of the Esk is negligible and no report of other pollution has been received. The difficulties encountered in previous years from silage juice seem to have gone.

It is hoped that the next section of the Sewer Scheme will be the Ruswarp area, which, when completed, will obviate the need to turn untreated sewage into tidal waters, as happens now.

SHOPS.

No action has been necessary under the Shops Acts provisions.

CAMPING SITES.

Four licenced sites are available in the Area and with the exception of one, all will be to the required standard. The remaining one has been unavoidably delayed in carrying out the necessary work, but should be up to standard during 1963.

Even with approved site facilities for 128 caravans, I feel there is demand for more, the difficulty being to find suitable sites which will not offend the Town Planners.

Constant requests are received in the Department for individual sites, which have to be refused because of this shortage.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no Offensive Trades registered within the Area.

SWIMMING POOLS.

These facilities are still as reported in 1960.

Due to the poor Summer weather, very little use was made of the Pool. Tests for adequate chlorination were made frequently, all were satisfactory.

The move to provide an indoor heated pool by a private organisation continues, but it would seem that many years will elapse before such a scheme comes to fruition.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

This service is now amply provided and no difficulties arise. The Council are to be complimented on their progress in this sphere. There remains a need for facilities along the south side of Church Street, which is in the process of being satisfied, and the existing premises in the Market Square would seem to have served their useful life and a new Convenience in this Area is needed.

FACTORIES.

There are no large factories in the District, and supervision is exercised over these mainly in conjunction with other work.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Fortunately the Area is not troubled by Industrial smoke, but domestic smoke on the infrequent still days hangs as a heavy haze in the lower parts of the Town.

From reports of the speed at which Smoke Control Areas are being made in the Black Spots and the seeming inability to get adequate supplies of smokeless fuels, a long time will elapse before this Authority will be able to take action.

VERMIN INFESTATION.

Another year has passed without sight of a bedbug.

Cockroaches still give trouble, but as more old property disappears so should this insect.

There is no doubt that the availability of pressure packs of efficient insecticides has done much to reduce the incidence of vermin. A natural reluctance to call in the Department to deal with insects has always been present, but now the householder can tackle the job efficiently himself and thus prevent spread.

RODENT CONTROL.

The part-time operator has dealt with 66 complaints, which involved 240 visits.

The rise in the incidence of complaints noted at the end of last year has disappeared.

A small colony of rats in a particular place seemed to have become immune to Warfarin, but a switch to Zinc Phosphide quickly put an end to them.

There are no heavy infestations, and with the years of experience in this work, it is now known where colonies try to set up. Constant watch is kept at these points and action taken on signs showing.

Mice, due to their habits, still present something of a problem.

HOUSING.

The work of Slum Clearance has been almost at a standstill because of the slow progress in house building. Two areas in Central Church Street will be at the Enquiry stage early in 1963. There are still many more houses which require Clearance, and it is frustrating that this work cannot proceed.

General need houses are still required, and the application list for Council Houses remains a problem.

Twenty-six houses were completed by Private Enterprise and none by the Local Authority.

Four Applications for Improvement Grants were dealt with and approved. In addition, many more enquiries were handled which, whilst not attracting grant for the proposed works, an opportunity was given to advise house-owners on the best possible use of their property.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Regular schedules of collection were only maintained with the greatest of difficulty. Men suitable for this arduous and often very unpleasant task are not easy to obtain, particularly when the rewards are not equal to those for less arduous and more congenial occupations. Insufficient importance is attached to this vital work and only when setbacks and delays occur does the work achieve the necessary importance it deserves.

The remarkable change in the character of Refuse still continues, and bulk continues to increase in spite of a separate paper collection. This causes both collection and disposal difficulties. The disposal of offensive matter is often difficult in modern dwellings, and as these increase refuse becomes more offensive.

New thinking is required in this work towards home disposal of waste products, particularly those which decompose and become offensive. Whilst there are many admirable sink disposal units on the market, I consider insufficient use is made of them.

The time is rapidly approaching when considerable sums will have to be spent on larger capacity collection vehicles, with possible improvements and alterations to the separation and disposal plant, which is now 25 years old and working at strain.

Additional collections took place from 26 premises on payment of £1 1s. 0d. per collection.

A total of 3,868 loads of refuse was treated at the Plant, 3,450 brought in by our own vehicles, 24 by private persons, 62 by the Rural District Council and 332 by local tradespeople.

SALVAGE.

The demand for recoveries remains fairly constant, but with steadily decreasing prices :—

Total Sales for 1962 :—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Screenings	222	0	0	45	8	6
Cinders	50	14	0	52	15	5
Clinkers	315	0	0	62	10	3
Paper	150	19	0	1,149	4	4
Baled Tins	168	8	0	1,057	12	9
N.F. Metals	1	6	1 1 st.	46	1	6
Scrap Metal	21	19	2	110	1	0
Bones	4	9	0 1½ st.	32	15	9
Textiles	1	12	3 ½ st.	20	2	0
Bottles and Jars		317½	doz	14	12	2
Miscellaneous				1	3	6
				<hr/> £2,592 7 2 <hr/>		

MEAT INSPECTION.

A further increase in the number of animals slaughtered is reported, 28,075, against 24,814 in 1961.

Completion of the first section of the Abattoir was achieved early summer and has resulted in improved conditions all round. It is hoped that early settlement of difficulties will result in the completion of this work during 1963 to the benefit of all concerned.

All animals slaughtered were inspected, but only with the sacrifice of a good deal of private time. The proposed Meat Inspection Regulations, to become operative some time in 1963, will improve inspection standards and thus cause more time to be spent on this work.

727 visits to the abattoir were made for the purpose of inspecting meat. This figure includes 222 evenings, 48 Saturday afternoons, 52 Sundays, and 9 Bank Holidays, calling for 378 hours of overtime.

29,271½ lbs. of meat were condemned as unfit for human consumption, of which 3,217 lbs. were tubercular.

A good proportion of meat condemned is either “casualty” or tubercular re-actors.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. Killed	3,527	748	546	15,158	8,156	0
No. Inspected	3,527	748	546	15,158	8,156	0
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :						
Whole Carcases Con- demned	7	16	8	27	15	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	406	140	16	174	1,212	0
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis or Cysticerci	11.710	20.885	4.396	1.326	15.044	
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcasses con- demned	0	1	2	0	1	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	21	1	0	160	0
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	0.142	2.941	0.550	0	1.974	
Cysticercosis :						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	55	0	0	0	0	0
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	7	0	0	0	0	0
Generalised and totally condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0

OTHER FOODS.

Constant routine inspections are necessary to maintain a standard of hygiene. This assumes a major task during the holiday season, when one would like to be in several places at once to keep pace.

It is pleasing to note the ever-increasing requests for advice from food vendors on the multitude of problems which beset them. Being regarded as a friend from whom advice is to be sought rather than a person to be avoided makes this task much more pleasant.

Again one must express surprise at the lack of knowledge in the basic principles of hygiene which is found in some employees handling food, and I re-iterate the crying need for some form of education of food employees in hygiene.

The following table lists food premises in their various categories, but excludes hotels and boarding houses :—

1. Cafes and Snack Bars	24
2. Cafes/Confectioners' Shops	2
3. Cafes/Confectioners' Shops-Bakehouses	1
4. Bakehouses	1
5. Bakehouses/Confectioners' Shops	5
6. Confectioners' shops	3
7. Fish and Chip Shops	6
8. Fish and Chip Shops/Cafes	7
9. Butchers' Shops	16
10. Greengrocers' Shops	13
11. Grocers and General Mixed Shops	48
12. Grocers/Dairies	1
13. Kipper Curing	2
14. Preparing of Shell Fish	2
15. Manufacture of Ice Cream	3
16. Manufacture of Mineral Waters	1
17. Sweet Shops	28
18. Wet Fish Shops	4
19. Flour Milling	1
20. Dairies	1
21. School and Hospital Kitchens	9
22. Off-Licence Shops	3

ICE CREAM.

Manufacture, storage and sale	2
Storage and sale only	71

The increasing use of "soft" ice cream is noted. The machines which manufacture this product are very complicated, and great care is needed to see that complete cleansing and sterilisation is effected.

Fifty-two ice cream samples were taken during the year, all of which were satisfactory.

UNSOUND FOOD.

During the year the following items of food were surrendered and disposed of as unfit for human consumption :—

Canned Meat	85 cans
Canned Milk	31 cans
Canned Fish	7 cans
Canned Fruit	120 cans
Canned Vegetables	90 cans
Miscellaneous	13 cans

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

2 lbs. Ham.
 12 oz. Stoned Raisins.
 30 lbs. Frozen Rabbit.
 7 lbs. Frozen Kidney.
 30 lbs. Lentils.
 2 lbs. Jam.
 27 Bars Chocolate.

